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USSR

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Copy No: *h*COMMENTS ON STATEMENTS BY "CORPORAL" AND "PER"  
ON THE POLISH QUESTION.

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

Nos.: 1814-1815

23 Dec 1944

[Part I] To VICTOR.

Events on the Western Front have diverted the attention of the public and the Press from CORPORAL's [KAPRAL][i] statement on the Polish question. From remarks in Congress, the Press and in private conversation with correspondents it is evident that public opinion has reacted in precisely the way in which the BANK[ii] wished, that is to say anti-Soviet circles consider [1 group garbled][a] statement as support of the Polish claims and in the main as a refusal to betray the position of the COUNTRY [STRANA][iii] in the question [2 groups unrecovered] dispute in wartime. Supporters of a solution of the question on the basis of the Curzon Line regard the statement, in particular the promise of support for the transfer of the national minority, as a sign that the COUNTRY does not agree with PER's[iv] point of view. PER's statement was calculated to pacify as much as possible both camps and is a continuation of CAPTAIN's [KAPITAN][v] super-cautious policy of the pre-election period. The keenest supporters of a close linking of fate with us do not [1 group unrecovered] this formulation of CORPORAL's. The same view is held by BUMBLEBEE [SMEL][vi], SWING[vii], DICKY [DIKI][viii], and SERGIO[ix]. [2 groups unrecovered] they frequently

[continued overleaf]

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reflect MIKOLAJCZYK's line in conversation, expressing the wish that in forming a new Polish government and the treaty with the U.S.S.R. a loophole might be left for renewing in the future talks on the subject of L'VOV.

[Part. II] BUMBLEBEE and SWING consider that a great part in formulating this statement was played by the unwillingness of the capitalists to antagonise the Catholics, who under the pressure of the Vatican's propaganda are categorically opposing any policy of participation with the U.S.S.R. SWING [C% in particular] said to SERGEJ[x] "

[27 groups unrecoverable]

[D% SPEL] LMAN we refused a visa)

[16 groups unrecovered]

is not letting slip an opportunity of emphasising that [2 groups unrecovered] to be decided the fate of our rapprochement and the establishment of lasting peace.

No. 988  
23 December

MAY [MAJ][xi][c]

T.N.: [a] Almost certainly KAPRAL.

[b] Not available.

[c] The transmission bearing external serial number 1845 contained two messages, of which the first is given here. The second is published as Item 3 of S/NBF/T202.

Comments: [i] KAPRAL: Edward R. STETTINUS, Jr., U.S. Secretary of State, who made a statement on 18 Dec. 1944 on the policy of the United States toward Poland.

[ii] BANK: the U.S. Department of State.

[iii] STRANA: the United States of America.

[iv] PER: Possibly a variant of PÉR = PEER. Apparently a new cover-name for Winston CHURCHILL (superseding KABAN = BOAR); CHURCHILL made a speech in the House of Commons on 15 Dec. 1944 on the Polish question, the context of which appears to fit in with the reference given here. Note that there is no record of KABAN being used after 18 Oct. 1944.

[v] KAPITAN: Franklin Delano ROOSEVELT.

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[vi] ShMEL': in this case an unidentified  
journalist.

[vii] SWING:

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[viii] DIKI: Johannes STEELE.

[ix] SERGIO: unidentified.

[x] SERGEJ: Vladimir Sergeevich PRAVDIN.

[xi] MAJ: Pavel Ivanovich FEDOSIMOV.

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